

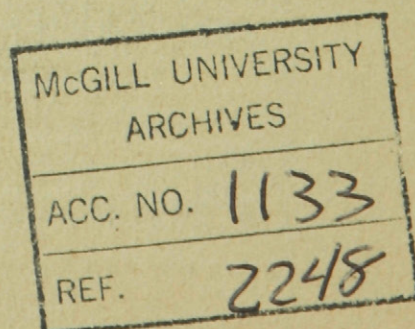
Montreal, February 14, 1901.

MCGILL OUTLOOK

VOL. III. No. 12.

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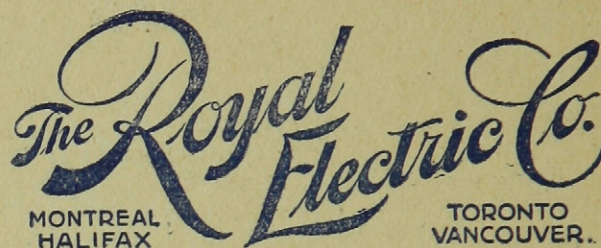
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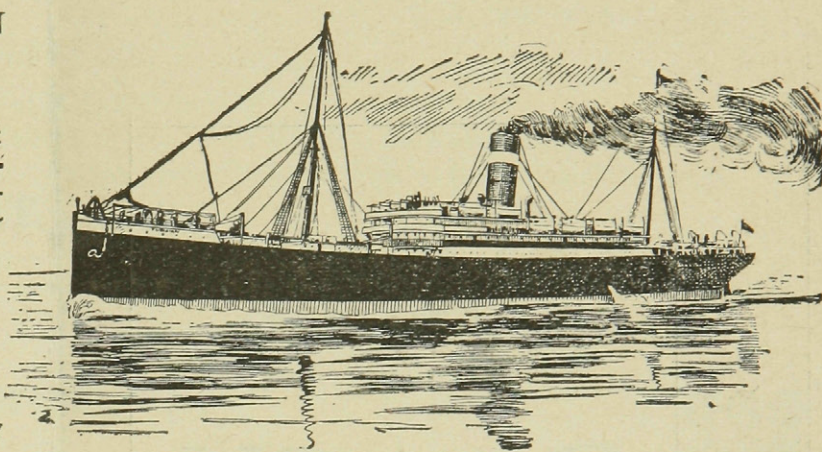
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Editorial.

The Inter-collegiate Debate.

It is once more the privilege of the OUTLOOK to congratulate the Literary Society on last Friday's victory over Toronto in the Annual Inter-collegiate Debate; this makes the fourth consecutive occasion on which McGill has proved superior to Varsity in this important department of university life—a matter of no small pride to us all.

McGill's side of the argument was upheld by Mr. Irving '02 and Mr. Adams '02, who debated with a skill which speaks well for the good work of the Literary.

The Inter-collegiate Debate is an important event in many ways, more especially as it brings into prominence, at least once a year, the one Debating Club in the University. It is certainly a thousand pities that such an important branch of college education as debating should receive the small attention it does at McGill.

Instead of being the largest and most popular society in the University the Literary is struggling along year by year with small membership and scanty encouragement. In fact that it is alive at all to-day is largely due to the enthusiasm of a devoted few who spare

neither time nor energy in the interests of the Club.

The Literary should be the one Society in the University where students of all Faculties could meet on common ground. Whether a man is studying for Medicine, Law or Science, he will in every case find the experience in public speaking, to be gained at the Literary, simply invaluable in after life. It is a common belief that the Society is in existence for the benefit of Law and Arts only; but, while it is admitted that the interests of these two Faculties lie more in this direction than those of others, there can be no doubt that Science and Medicine would profit greatly, not only from the practice in speaking, but from the general culture which such a society affords.

We believe that much could be done for the Literary by encouragement from the authorities such as is given at Yale and Harvard, where considerable sums of money are expended every session with this object in view.

We do not know how Toronto Literary fares, but, judging from the relative performances of the two, Toronto is worse off than McGill.

McGill-'Varsity Debate.

Before a crowded hall of eager listeners the representatives of the two great Canadian Universities met for the eleventh time in Literary Debate last Friday evening. The doors of the Molson Hall had been opened not only to the students but to the public of Montreal, who showed their appreciation of this by coming in large numbers.

At 8.15 President McNaughton took the chair, and, after a few brief remarks, read a message from our Principal away in Boston, hoping that the best side would win.

After a song by Miss Mary Cotton, who, by the way, was so enthusiastically applauded that she had to grant an encore, Mr. Wilcox, of Toronto University, was called upon to open the Debate in support of the resolution: "Resolved, that it is in the best interests of the United States to hold and maintain possessions outside of the American continent." Remark- ing that this was now not a theory, but a *fait accom- pli* sanctioned by the verdict of the American people, the speaker dwelt on the tendency of the Anglo-Saxon nations to expand. This movement had begun in the days of Hengest and Horsa; it had continued ever greater under Elizabeth, Cromwell and Vic- toria; the American colonies since their foundation had ever striven to increase their territory, and they had added territory after territory until they had reached the Pacific and could go no further. During the last few years the population had increased 105 per cent., the exports 210 per cent., the country was producing more than it could consume, capital was growing unwieldy, an industrial proletariat was springing up. Therefore, had the United States need of foreign markets, of undeveloped countries where their surplus capital could find profitable investments in great enterprises, where they could successfully cope with European commerce and industry. The acqui- sition of the Philippines had raised the prestige of the United States in the eyes of the world, the speaker held. Here the Americans could send their surplus population and capital. With this Imperial policy in view the United States would greatly benefit both themselves and the world; they would bring about the unification of all classes, would efface pro- vincialism and elevate the moral tone of the country. By refusing to follow this policy the Americans would be placing themselves in a culpable position and assuming serious responsibilities.

Chauncey Adams, replying for McGill, recalled to his audience how the American nation had been founded at a period when the whole of Europe was one huge battlefield. Since that time hardly a year had passed without bringing serious international difficulties into European capitals. On the other hand, with the exception of the Civil War, the United States had enjoyed continuous peace and unparalleled prosperity. By the Monroe doctrine they had made themselves practically invulnerable against all nations. The affirmative had declared that colonial expansion would strengthen them. Was this so? Investigation proved that, on the contrary, it was

exposing the country to the attacks of other nations, to the rivalry of old and powerful competitors. This would imperil the prosperity of the Americans, for surely it would not strengthen them to spend millions of dollars on fleets and armies. No, the proper field for American expansion was the United States. Here in a new country their capital and energy could be spent in developing the natural resources of their immense territories, in opening mines, facilitating transportation, improving machinery, building public works, raising the educational level. The population per square mile was less in the United States than in the Philippines, Porto-Rico or Cuba; therefore, immigration into these colonies would not be logical.

The United States could not be compared to Eng- land, for England was a small country with con- gested population and it had but few natural re- sources. "Trade follows the price and quality of goods, not the flags of nations," continued Mr. Adams, and he exposed the cases of France and Germany in support of this assertion. Would it pay, then, to give up the old policy of peace and prosperity and to adopt the new policy of war?

Mr. Fisher then took the platform. His strong, powerful voice filled the whole hall with ease, and he used it with great effect to impress upon his hearers that present circumstances are far different from those of Washington's days. To-day the United States should live in relationship with the rest of the world. "The Lord has given to the United States a new continent," he said, "in which to move and live and have their being. If she wishes to take her place in the world she must pay her way." For this she must hold possessions; she can grant no rights nor accept any until she holds pos- sessions; the *sine qua non* of action is the mainten- ance of possessions; the United States cannot live in the world and do nothing but talk. When Louisiana and Texas and all the other territories were acquired it was not without a war. The same disadvantages existed then as now; the same Monroe doctrine, the same Constitution, and yet, in spite of all this, these possessions had increased enormously the prosperity of the American people. As far as the military question was concerned, the speaker declared that there was less danger of war when armies are big than when they are small, and he agreed with Lord Rosebery's opinion about standing armies being the best guarantees of the peace of the world.

Geo. Irving closed the Debate for McGill. After thanking his opponent for his teaching him that we live and move on this planet, and for having re- freshed his classical idioms, he dwelt at length on the military question. Under the Monroe doctrine, the United States had developed without minding European affairs and without the anxieties of inter- national disputes. Should they lay old principles aside, embrace new ones, give up the known for the unknown? The speaker compared the stand of the affirmative to that of the green pilot, who, having

gone asleep at the wheel, on awakening found that the Polar Star he had been given to steer for was now behind the ship, and asked the skipper to give him a new star to steer by. At the present time there was a dangerous element in the United States nourished on yellow journal sensationalism, which needed an element of conservative poise by popular respect for constitutional ideas. When high ideals were departed from, selfishness, corruption and vice came in. If the United States outstepped the bounds of the American mainland they would reap the calamitous results of their refusal to be taught by the lessons of history. Belief in progress was all very well, but philanthropy should begin at home. "The true way for the United States to fulfill their destiny is to shoot down the foes of liberty at home, and not the Filipinos."

Then Mr. Wilcox briefly summed up the arguments for his side, and everybody looked anxiously at the three judges who were busily taking notes. While they consulted together, Mr. de Blois played the Wedding March of Tannhäuser on the violin. Then Judge Curran stepped up to the platform, and amid a death-like silence announced that out of a possible 200 points 'Varsity had won 140 and McGill 170.

Then the silence was broken by a thunder-clap of shouting; cheers for McGill, for 'Varsity, for the speakers, fairly shook the old hall. The happy victors were borne off triumphantly on the shoulders of their friends and were bounced as never before. The crowd slowly passed out and in the corridors of the old building

" . . . Silence claimed her evening reign."

Contributions.

DANTE AND BEATRICE.

In the teaching of the most ancient philosophers, Chinese, Indian and Egyptian, the position of woman is one of complete subservience to man. The story, common to all oriental theologies that woman fell first, tempted man and thus sinned mankind out of Paradise, is largely responsible for this widespread subjection of woman. Even the Jews, whose religion was the purest of the world, were by no means free from this degraded idea concerning woman, and it was not till the Incarnation was preached throughout the world that woman was fully emancipated from the slavery in which custom had placed her. But, when through woman had come God's best gift to man, woman was raised to a far higher plane. We hail this elevation of woman as one of the greatest steps in the advancement of the world's civilization.

The idealization of woman followed, and throughout the age of chivalry the motto of knighthood was, *Dieu et ma Dame*. Dante has preserved for us this sentiment in a form which will remain as long as literature lasts. His Vita Nuova and Divina Commedia are immortal monuments of the noblest spirit of Mediæval times. So idealized does Dante make his most gracious lady that many have doubted her existence altogether, and take her merely as the personification of certain virtues; but her existence was not called into question by contemporary critics. We can no more neglect the real Beatrice than the ideal.

Beatrice is the central fact in Dante's life; she is the load star that directed his whole life. The root of his great Epic is the desire to glorify Beatrice. She is the controlling influence that shapes all his actions. It is Dante not as the author of *De Monarchia*, the upholder of the Empire, the fore-

runner of Italian unity, as a Florentine politician, but Dante, as the lover of Beatrice, that interests us. His love was so intense that in *La Vita Nuova* he represents Love as a being with body and members, a being who fully swayed all his inclinations.

In the study of the person of Beatrice our subject naturally falls under the heads—Beatrice on earth and Beatrice in Heaven. For the first of these *La Vita Nuova* and the *Convito* are our great sources of information; for the second, the *Divina Commedia*.

Dante tells us that: "Nine times now since my birth the heaven of light had turned almost to the same point in its own gyration when the glorious Lady of my mind, who was called Beatrice by many who knew not what to call her, first appeared before my eyes. She had already been in life so long that in its course the starry heaven had moved toward that region of the East, one of the twelve parts of a degree, so that at about the beginning of her ninth year she appeared to me, and I, near the end of my ninth year, saw her. She appeared to me clothed in a most noble colour, a modest and becoming crimson, and she was girt and adorned in such wise as befitted her very youthful age. At that instant I say truly that the spirit of life, which dwells in the most secret chamber of the heart, began to tremble with such violence that it appeared fearfully in the last pulses, and trembling said these words, '*Ecce deus fortior me, qui veniens dominabitur mihi.*' 'From that time forward Love lorded it over my soul which had been so speedily wedded to him.' He commanded me oft-times that I should seek to see this youthful angel, so that in my boyhood often went seeking her and saw her of such a noble and praiseworthy department that truly of her might be said that word of the poet Homer, 'She seems not the daughter of mortal man but of God.'

The facts that we gather from these statements and from other sources are that Dante's father took him when about the end of his ninth year to a May festival at the House of Fulco Portinari, and there, among the little children of his own age, Dante saw Beatrice Portinari, then a child of eight years and four months. The strength of the passion that she inflamed in his soul is something unusual in a child so young, but his was a genuine one, a passion that lasted throughout his life, a passion stronger than Death. His New Life then truly began, a life that had Beatrice for its keystone. Those critics had surely little conception of Dante's soul who in the title *La Vita Nuova* understood nothing other than 'Life of Youth.' Besides, this reading 'Nuova' to mean 'youthful' is not borne out by classic authors or by writers in the vulgar tongue. Even less does 'Vita Nuova' refer to the new life to which Italy was beginning to awaken after the Dark Ages, for Dante was intensely Mediæval. 'La Vita Nuova' to him was the record of that life which the presence of Beatrice had made new.

Again, "When so many days had passed that nine years were exactly completed since the above described apparition of this most gentle lady, on the last of these days it happened that this admirable lady appeared to me clad in purest white, between two gentle ladies who were of greater age, and, passing along a street, turned her eyes toward that place where I stood very timidly, and, by her ineffable courtesy which is to-day rewarded in the eternal world, saluted me with such virtue that it seemed to me that I saw all the bounds of bliss. The hour that her most sweet salutation reached me was precisely the ninth hour of the day." He here returned to his chamber and fell asleep. Love appeared to him "and said many things which I understood not save a few among which I understood these, *Ego Dominus tuus*." Love held in his hand Dante's heart all aflame which he fed to Beatrice. She ate it timidly, and then love bore her away to Heaven—a prophecy of her early death. This vision appeared to him in the first of the ninth hour before daybreak.

"After this vision my natural spirit began to be hindered in its operation, for my soul was wholly given over to the thought of this most gracious lady, whereby in brief time I fell into so frail and feeble a condition that my appearance was grievous to my friends." The flame was at its height. Her presence banished all evil thoughts from his heart. "I say that whenever she appeared in any place in hope of her marvellous salutation that there no longer remained to me an enemy; nay, a flame of charity possessed me, which made me pardon every one who had done me wrong; and had anyone at that time questioned me of anything, my only answer would have been 'Love.'"

Thus he goes on to tell of his passion. He tries to hide it from others. He addresses verses to several Florentine women, tries to lend weight to the story that his affection is centered upon another than Beatrice. Beatrice notices this, and through anger at his apparent inconstancy and through jealousy "that most gracious lady, who was the destroyer of all the vices and the queen of virtues

passing by a certain place, denied me her most sweet salute in which lay all my bliss." Now his supreme happiness lay only in gazing upon her, a boon she could not deny. The lover goes on to describe the course of his Passion through years, how Love again and again appeared to him in his dreams, usually at the ninth hour; how he wrote verses to her on different occasions showing forth her virtues. His affection remained constant though clouds had intervened. At last "the Lord of justice called this most gentle one to glory under the banner of that Holy Queen Mary, whose name was ever spoken with the greatest reverence by Beatrice." His earthly had been transformed into a Heavenly Love.

The light of Dante's life had gone out. Bitter were the tears he shed, but tears seemed his only consolation, till even these were denied him. "After my eyes had wept for some time and were so wearied I could not give vent to my sadness; I thought to try to give vent to it with some words of grief:

"Departed from her person beautiful,
The gentle soul replete with every grace
Now dwelleth glorious in a fit abode.
Who weeps her not, when he doth speak of her,
Hath heart of stone so vile and so perverse,
Spirit benign can never enter there.
Nor is there wit so high of villain heart
That aught concerning her it can conceive,
Therefore, to it comes not the wish to weep.
But he hath grief and woe,
With sighing and with weeping unto death,
And of all comfort is his soul bereft,
Who sometimes in his thought considereth
What she was, and how from us she is taken.
Alone lamenting I call and say
'Art thou then dead?'
And while I call her I am comforted.
The tears of grief and sighs of agony
Lay waste my heart whene'er I am alive;
And what indeed my life hath been, since she
My lady to the new world went away,
No tongue there is that could know how to tell."

While Dante thus cried *de profundis* nothing could comfort him. But, while he still mourned for her who was gone, a fair dunsel, a former friend of Beatrice, looked upon him with such compassion and sympathy in his grief, that he began to find pleasure in her company. He resorted to her more and more till at last he feared that she was supplanting Beatrice in his soul, but, with remorse, he returned to his former pure love for Beatrice.

He concludes "*La Vita Nuova*" thus: "A wonderful vision appeared to me in which I saw things which made me resolve to speak no more of this blessed one until I could more worthily treat of her, and to attain to this, I study to the utmost of my power, as she truly knows. So that if it shall please Him through whom all things live, that my life be prolonged for some years, I hope to say of her what was never said of any woman," a promise which he fulfilled in the *Divina Commedia*.

Thus Dante gives the course of his earthly love. We learn from other sources that Beatrice married a wealthy member of the Bardi family and died on the ninth of June 1290, being then 25 years of age. Dante himself married Gemma Doneti, and we have no reason to believe that she did not prove a dutiful wife or that they did not live happily together.

We must read something of the allegory into "La Vita Nuova." Beatrice here and elsewhere personifies Divine Philosophy or Theology—the study of the things of God. From this we see that Dante was of a contemplative mood and loved Philosophy from his early youth, but, at one time, swerved from love of it when he dabbled in politics from 1290-1301. From that time forward he became a hard student labouring for many long years that he might do justice to the great subject he had looked forward to since Beatrice had been taken from him.

One more thing needs explanation. The frequent recurrence of the number nine in regard to Beatrice is explained by the author. There are nine heavens and all were in perfect harmony at her birth. She was a miracle of God's goodness. The root of nine is three. The only explanation of a character so pure, so sublime, is the Great Three in One—the Holy Trinity manifesting itself through her.

We need not here trace the life of Dante from the time of Beatrice's death. We merely mention some of the more important episodes. Through the influence of Pope Boniface VIII. he was banished from fair Florence in 1301, and never returned to his native town. He was threatened with fire if he should be apprehended in Florentine territory. He wandered here and there throughout Italy, the client now of one noble house, now of another. He visited Paris, and it is rumoured that he even reached Oxford. Throughout all these years he was working hard upon his great masterpiece. The skeleton of it had been formed long years before he began to write. His thoughts on this great subject, which was to be commensurate with the whole Universe, had been ripening for years, and now he sets to work to fulfil the promise he had made at the conclusion of "La Vita Nuova."

Virgil, as Beatrice desired, had conducted Dante through all the terrors of the Inferno—a place so terrible that in it Dante forbears to take the sacred name of Beatrice upon his lips. In the milder shades of Purgatory Dante is ever looking forward to meeting with his love, and now is free to mention that name that is so dear to him. At the top of the Earthly Paradise Beatrice, in her celestial beauty, accompanied by a heavenly train, meets them. Dante, smitten with remorse for his former unfaithfulness to her, like a timid child running to its mother for protection, turns towards Vergil. But, alas! he is gone, and Dante must face Beatrice alone. She stands upon the other side of Lethe's stream and accosts him, "O thou who art on the further side of the sacred river, say, say, if this be true: to so great an accusation it behooves that thine own confession be conjoined." "Confusion and fear, together mingled, forced such a 'yes' from out my mouth that the eyes were needed to the understanding of it." She calls him strictly to account for his unfaithfulness, and the poor penitent is overcome with remorse. With sad heart and downcast countenance he heard the reproaches of his love; and only when ordered so to do could he bring himself to look upon her holy face. Beatrice's attendants conduct him as he swims over Lethe, the river of forgetfulness. He is dipped beneath the surface, swallows some of the water, and then the memory of his past unfaithfulness

haunts him no more. He is graciously received by Beatrice, and together, accompanied by the heavenly throng, they advance.

We must now examine this episode of Beatrice's reproaching Dante. It is not Beatrice that does so, but Dante, in memory of his former coldness of love, puts these words in her mouth for self accusation. We cannot imagine his most gracious lady thus accosting him and bringing so vividly before his memory his former failures. How far these self-accusations were justified by facts, and how far they may be regarded as expressive of a sensitive and excited conscience, we have no means of determining. It is, doubtless, but simple justice to apply to him the words which he applies to Virgil, "O noble conscience and without a stain, how sharp a sting is trivial fault to thee." But something that seems to point to more grievous fault than merely dabbling in politics and neglecting his pursuit of higher things is a sonnet addressed to Dante by his intimate friend, Guido Cavalcante:—

"I come to thee by daytime constantly,
But in thy thoughts too much of baseness find.
Greatly it grieves me for thy gentle mind,
And for thy many virtues gone from thee.
It was thy want to shun much company,
Unto all sorry concourse ill inclined,
And still thy speech of me heartfelt and kind,
Had made me treasure up thy poetry;
But now I dare not for thy abject life
Make manifest that I approve thy rhymes,
Nor come I in such sort that thou mayst know.
Ah! pry thee read this sonnet many times;
So shall that evil one who bred this strife
Be thrust from thy dishonoured soul and go."

We do not judge; we merely state the two views as to the nature and extent of Dante's wandering from the truth.

But now all memory of his earthly failure is past. He is in the enjoyment of Beatrice's presence. They are about to mount to the spheres. But, before he can leave the Earthly Paradise, he must have his virtues revived. So he is plunged in the river Eunoë.

From this time forward the loving pair are in the full enjoyment of each other's affection, and many of the endearing expressions, so frequent in *La Vita Nuova*, recur. But, even as on earth, Dante is ever overcome by the power of her eyes. She is the complete master. He must look up and wonder at her beauty, at her glory.

By gazing upon the eyes of Beatrice, Dante follows her as she ascends through the different spheres. Whenever he is perplexed and baffled he turns to Beatrice, and she resolves his doubts and calms his fears. Her beauty and excellence so surpass him that he is led to exclaim: "Not only does the beauty I beheld transcend ourselves, but truly I believe its Maker only can enjoy it all." Even as a perfect painting is the best praise of the painter, as the perfect statue is the best praise of the master of the plastic art, so Beatrice is called the "true praise of God."

As they mount higher and higher her beauty becomes more and more divine. She smiles upon him with "such a smile as would make a man in fire happy." In her eyes was Paradise. In the heaven of Saturn she, not smiling, said: "If I should smile

thou wouldst become as Sewell was when she became ashes ; for my beauty, which, along the stairs of the eternal palace, is kindled the more, as thou hast seen, the higher it ascends, is so resplendent that if it were not tempered at its effulgence thy mortal power would be as a bough shattered with thunder." From this height, from the last of the planets, guided by his leader, Divine Philosophy, he looked down upon the earth and saw the globe, such that he smiled at its mean semblance. Thus one who formulates his life upon the principles of Philosophy can smile at the cares and vicissitudes of this life.

They pass on through the Heaven of the fixed stars, the Premium Mobile, and enter the *Empirean*. He sees the hosts of the Blessed, but, when he wishes to go farther to enjoy the Beatific Vision, Beatrice cannot conduct him. For that Faith alone is necessary, and, instead of Beatrice by his side, he sees an old man, St. Bernard, his face "o'erspread with benignant joy, in pious *mein* such as befits a tender father." He looks up to the Rose of the Blessed and there sees his beloved near the Queen of Heaven, praising Him who liveth for ever and ever.

For the concluding Canto, Dante seems to have summoned up the whole extent of his vast genius for a prayer to the Virgin, for a suggestion, not for a description (for that were impossible) of the Beatific Vision. "Now will my speech be shorter, even in respect to that which I remember, than an infant's, who still bathes his tongue at the breast." There was a height of glory in Heaven to which he could never attain, and thus he concludes the whole. "To my high fantasy here power failed me, but now my desire and my will, like a wheel which evenly is moved, the love was turning, which moves the sun and the other stars."

It is in the midst of a warlike, jealous, scheming, turbulent, restless society that the first notes of song were heard in Italy. But the song was not a *Marseillaise*; on the contrary the melodies with which Italy awoke to her artistic priesthood were love ditties—love that withdraws one's thoughts from all things vile. When we see the degenerate state of the papacy, the weakened power of the Empire, France, with its scheming, unscrupulous court, Germany full of anarchy, Italy full of quarreling, bitterly hostile cities, it seems strange that this should be the time that the greatest love poem should have had its birth. But genius seems ever to have triumphed over the greatest difficulties.

We are told that a woman of Verona, on seeing Dante passing along the street, said to her companion : "See, his hair is crisped and curled with the fire of hell." The *Inferno* was, and is still, considered by many to be the best of the *Divina Commedia*,

and this view is quite natural, for the *Inferno* is the most material, the least spiritual of the three, and appeals more directly to the average reader of Dante. His contemporaries, as we have seen, looked upon him as the man who had written of the terrors of the *Inferno*, not as the poet who had risen to the heights of *Paradise*. But let us not take this view of Dante and his work. The *Paradise* is the supreme effort of his life. In it his genius and his sovereign, Love, raised him to a height that not all can appreciate.

Without Beatrice and her influence upon him, Dante might have been named among the numerous *literary* lights of Florence ; he might have been a politician worthy of some mention even at this distant date ; but without her he would never have been placed among the first of earth's great ones. His name would never have been mentioned along with Homer, Virgil, Shakespeare, Milton.

IN THE LIBRARY.

The fire is dim, the light is low,
And silent, in my easy-chair
I sit and dream, and fancies flow
About me, in the darkling air.

The walls with books are covered well ;
Quite to the ceiling high they rise,
And in the darkness I can tell
Where each beloved volume lies.

But now they seem to live and move,
And faces from their bindings stare ;
And all the authors that I love,
And their creations fill the air.

They never speak ; their eager eyes
Look for companions never found,
As each into the darkness dies
In turn, and makes no sound.

And groups float by, but never gaze
Upon each other ; all, intent
On unknown errand, go their ways,
Or stand in mute bewilderment.

What are ye—real or feigned things ?
And will ye live some grander life,
When we, who breathe, have lost our wings,
And fallen, silent in the strife ?

And who are greatest ; those who found
A city grand, a palace high ;
Or those who till the spirit ground
Of fancy, that can never die ?

For men may live, and do, and dare,
Yet fade away, by all forgot ;
But these creations, foul and fair,
Live on, and perish not.

From Watson's "Songs of Flying Hours."



Societies.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MCGILL U. A. A.

"To sum up you can easily observe that the one word *Success* covers everything relating to the McGill University Athletic Association."

With these words Mr. Redon concluded his report at the Annual Meeting of the Athletic Association held in the Arts Building on Feb. 1st. The retiring secretary had prepared a most interesting summary of another year's progress, and showed clearly the good grounds for satisfaction afforded by the year's triumphs.

In the first place the success of last fall's meet, in which the keen competition in every event, the plucky struggle for the Faculty Trophy, and the breaking of three college records were conspicuous features, led the speaker to express amazement that such results could be achieved with the inadequate training facilities at the competitors' disposal. The decisive victory in the intercollegiate contest at Toronto presented still better reason for congratulation, and the success of Messrs. Molson and Rutherford at the fall games of the Cedar A. A. also played a part in adding to McGill's good reputation in track Athletics.

This reputation was by no means limited to Canada. The University of New York had sent a communication to this Association proposing an intercollegiate meet, and the University of Pennsylvania had invited McGill to send a relay team to Philadelphia to compete with the most prominent Universities of the United States.

During the year an attempt had been made to establish the long-talked-of Cross Country Run. And though various causes had continued to make it impossible this year, there was no reason why another season should not see the establishment of this desirable event as an annual feature of McGill Athletics.

Application had been made by the Athletic Association of the local theological colleges for incorporation with the general association. But, as yet, no decision had been arrived at in the matter.

Mr. Redon's report, and that of the retiring treasurer, Mr. P. W. Robertson, were adopted by the meeting. And after some brief discussion of minor details the election of officers took place with the following result:

<i>Hon. President</i> ...	Dr. Peterson.
<i>Hon. Treasurer</i>	Prof. McLeod.
<i>President</i>	Mr. F. Tees.
<i>Vice-President</i>	Mr. Geo. Johnson.
<i>Secretary</i>	E. J. Carlyle.
<i>Treasurer</i>	Mr. Walter Molson.

The faculty representatives should be elected as soon as possible, and their names sent to the secretary in order that the Association may perfect its executive organization at once, and prepare to make the coming year still more satisfactory than any of its predecessors.

MINING SOCIETY.

The Mining Society held its regular meeting on Friday evening in the Mining and Chemistry Building. Dr. Porter occupied the chair, and introduced Mr. M. Ogilvie, an old graduate, who gave a most interesting talk on the Klondike and Alaska. Mr. Ogilvie's remarks were illustrated by a magnificent set of colored views, the Beckmore collection, on Alaska and the Yukon. These views, with Mr. Ogilvie's pointed comments, gave a particularly clear conception of the peculiar difficulties under which the early miners labored, and the romantic scenes and experiences which they met with.



Class Reports.

REVUE LEGALE.

A Real Right is any right which a man really possesses, as, for example, the right to marry in community or otherwise. The exercise of this right is of considerable importance; when it is exercised the actual appearance of the wife is the best evidence that she is alive. But, in looking at the matter from this point of view, we must not forget that when the wife dies questions of grave importance arise. If, on the other hand, the husband wishes to contract a second marriage during the pendency of the first, it would be well to have the consent of both wives in order to protect the interests of third parties. Do you follow me so far? Well, conventional dower is the same thing inside out.

Just A. Wake—"Does Prescription run during hostilities?"

No. I. Tall—"It depends whether the proprietor is a better shot than the possessor."

Correspondence with the enemy during a state of belligerency is forbidden; consequently it is wiser not to communicate with her when her father has firmly and forcibly shown you to the door.

What has become of the Nursery? The periodical shuffling on the floor upstairs raises a presumption that they are still alive. We have no primary evidence of the fact. Wake up, children, and let us hear from you.

The heretical doctrine was propounded the other day that "this is bad law founded on an unreasonable condition." For Heaven's sake don't let it go any farther.

Mr. F. L. Beique was unanimously elected Captain of the Law Hockey Team. We are going to play Arts in a few days. The account of the game, for publication, is almost completed.

Query—Can a sale of religious rights be set aside for want of consideration?

"It is unnecessary to add that in the case of a partnership such complications do not arise; a partnership cannot have a wife."

The Law Hockey Team is a dream—one of the welsh-rarebit variety. C-r-n is to play centre rush; C-p-l will be at his favorite position left half; S-k-r will defend the grand stand, while M-g-r expects to hold down the goal net and direct operations from his coigne of vantage. Wait till you see us do up Arts! Wow! The Nucleus has been assigned the important duty of holding the water-bucket on condition that he keep hockey-sticks out of it. Two of our learned professors will act as time-keepers to equalize the chances of each side. To complete the arrangements W-t-r and A-m-r will match coppers on the result, while the rest of the Faculty dispose themselves picturesquely round the rink, each behind his own particular brand of cigar. We shall be the whole thing; in other words, the Invincibles.

Moral—The Typewriter is mightier than the hockey-stick.

ARTS.

1901.

The match between the Fourth and First Year on Thursday resulted in a win for the First Year. As a somewhat graphic account of the game will probably be found in another column, we will confine ourselves to the score, Arts '04, 3, Arts '01, 2. The Freshmen are deservedly proud of their victory.

"Para."—"The vertebrae of the turtle's neck have alternating hollows and bulbs at their ends, with the object of giving to the neck an extreme degree of mobility." Frank "Rubberrrrrr."

"Wouldn't that scorch you!" remarked Charlie, as he singed his whisker over the Bunsen.

Your reporter, having had several narrow escapes from enraged Voices—Mighty and otherwise, has decided to ring off on the "personals" for a while till the wind blows over.

1902.

Once more have the representatives of Old McGill successfully upheld the honour of their University in the Annual Debate with Toronto. Once more have they at the same time upheld the honour of Arts '02, and we desire, on behalf of the Class, to tender our congratulations to Messrs. Adams and Irving for the brilliant manner in which they handled their subject. Not within the memory of any present McGill man have three representatives (all successful), on Inter-collegiate Debates, been taken from one class during two successive years, while none of the other classes, at present in the Faculty of Arts, can claim the honour of ever having been represented on these Debates. Of course we do not mean to blame the Literary Society for choosing the best men, when they know where they are to be found.

The past week has indeed been a momentous one.

On Tuesday Og-lv- was seen at work in the Library, and on Friday a rumor spread that Pl-nt had been skating. Our worst fears were only too soon confirmed. Walking down the avenue we distinctly saw, above the snow bank of the rink, the well-known grey fedora and locks floating in the wind.

There was also a report early in the week that Pr-yn, being struck with the beauty of the poetry (?) which has appeared in the reports of other Classes, had decided to invoke the Muses to his aid, and compose an epic worthy of 1902. The deepest sympathy for the Class is expressed on all sides, together with the hope that the rumor may be false.

It is understood that a relief fund has been start-

ed by the members of the Logic Class for the purpose of purchasing a pair of felt-soled shoes for Mr. H——. As the object is a noble one, and the promoters of the scheme have in view the preservation of college property (which we hope will be spared for a few centuries yet), no doubt the appeal will meet with a liberal response. This being the case, members are requested not to contribute more than twice.

The members of '02 are rapidly coming to the fore.

Mr. Bl-gr-ve's new play, "Mamie's Secret," will be produced during the coming week by the Daisy Whooper Burlesque Company. Mr. Bl-gr-ve's success has been phenomenal. At present he and Mr. As-h are engaged in writing an operetta to be brought out soon at the Royal.

Mr. Irv-g has recently become connected with the gas works and is doing extremely well.

1903.

We are sorry to relate that Mr. MacM-r-n was compelled to return to his home for a few days last week, in order to recuperate his health. He had been suffering for some time from over eatin', and the apoplectic *Asclepiad* proved to be the last straw.

Mr. Davies has returned to us after a two weeks' absence. Probably, if he had known what was in store for him in the way of Sapphic Assameters, he would have prolonged his holiday still further.

SOME ANIMALS I HAVE KNOWN.

(Continued.)

The Dew Toad (Bufo Hobo) or Leaping Lu-lu.—A scaleless reptile whose limbs are strangely disproportioned, the forelegs being small and puny, while the hind legs are large and powerful.

This beast is a ruminant, or rag-chewing nomad, differing, but slightly, in the anatomical structure from the goat. It is of French origin and some think that, judging from its aspect, it is a descendant of the Wild Ass, but it is probable that, in this respect, its appearance belies it sadly.

It lives chiefly upon second hand literature which accounts for its peculiar complexion. It is almost as pugnacious as the Pownall, and leaps at its victims from a distance of 15 or 20 feet, emitting at the same time the most awe-inspiring squeaks,

The Hair-l pped Mowitt, or Mohair.—An animal belonging to the Theolog. species, Goggles genus, celebrated for the fine tassels of black silky hairs which grow from its upper lip, commonly known as Mohair. The Mowitt is exceedingly proud of this possession, and spends much time cultivating it.

The Mowitt is a harmless, inoffensive little mammal, tailless and featherless. What it lives on is not known, but it is never seen away from the *Meigh* or *Mighty Mammoth*. ☐

The dimensions of this latter beast are unknown.

It is taller than the Tawbes, broader than the Neddig, gooder than the Water Jonsing, and, in the chase for the pigskin, it is almost the equal of the Makdoo.

It also belongs to the Theolog. species, but is of the White Ty genus.

Some say it is a species of the long-lost Giant Sloth, and its habits would, perhaps, indicate something of this nature, but, after all, this is only conjecture.

Like the Mowitt, we do not know what it eats, but, judging from those celebrated lines of Shake-pere's,

"Awake dull sloth, and early rise
To eat the pud lings and the pies,"

one would consider that it is fond of pastry.

1904.

What a task is mine! How can I, a mortal, not a god, do credit to the mighty struggle for supremacy that to-day raged and tore upon the frozen sheet of nature's precious liquid, that drew the frantic crowd of anxious watchers, and has wrought eternal honour for the Freshman year? I ask, How can I—and the answer comes you can't! Surely no pen, wielded by the hand of mortal, can achieve this task, this Herculean task. Surely words would fail the imagination of an earthly man! For, by ye gods, it *was* a game! If you had seen the speed, the swift eye-dazzling speed, the twisting, dogging, slugging and the mighty courage, strength and skill displayed, you would have said: "Now I lay me down in peace to die, I am content no longer to live, breathe and have my being in this wide, wide world." Though young and innocent of tricks and "dirty play," our team, fondly we emphasis the "our," has won. Let the names of Young, Molson, Patrick, Ross, Greenshields, Monk and McDonald be forever emblazoned in letters of gold upon the sands of time. In conclusion I wish to sympathize with the Fourth Year; they played a magnificent game, and they deserve great credit, but one failing they had, they were not good enough for us.

THE FRESHMAN'S ALPHABET.

S is for Smoking, a terrible crime,
Silly people indulge, they think it sublime.

T is the Terrible result of Exams,
One cannot keep back his darns and his—

U is Upholding our glorious name,
Let us keep it as such, our indelible fame.

V is the Vandal who breaks every rule;
It seems as if yet he studied at school.

W is the Wee little innocent boy,
In dancing and fighting he hasn't a joy.

X is the 'Xcuse I must right away make,
For setting you down such a terrible fake.

Y is the Youngster we have in the Class,
Who yelling and stamping still expects that he'll pass.

Z is for Zebra, so alphabets say,
But has nothing to do with my little play.

MEDICINE.

1901.

THE YOUNG MOUSTACHE.

Oh! barber, spare that young moustache,
Nor touch a single hair;
Your razor, brush, and other trash,
Must never venture there.
At last the bud has blossomed out,
By much caressing taught;
Its frail young tendrils, how they sprout—
Then, barber, touch it not.

Though well laid out, and wide the field,
Whence this young moustache shoots,
The sickly soil no more can yield—
Oh! well guard, then, its roots;
For, should the murderous blade sweep o'er
That curved lip's shadowy mist,
The tender plants would bloom no more—
Then, barber, oh, desist.

Think of the dear young girl, whose lip
Was wont so oft to press
That budding mouth, its sweets to sip—
Oh, think of her distress;
'Tis unfledged manhood's pride and joy,
With tears and sighs 'twas brought;
Let no rude stroke its life destroy—
Oh! barber, touch it not.

Wyman was a subject for demonstration last week. He advertised his condition, but all were not quite sure of his death.

Time is fast fleeing—and soon we will be full of fear and trembling—take heed ye pluggers—and plug harder.

Wellington W——was a side item in a miniature Barrum show. He has the embryo mustachios and unshaved youths as partners. It was difficult to recognize the fumed Buck of Duckingham in the mild appearing, clean shaven and slightly frightened man. He caused no deaths, but there were narrow escapes.

Winter (our own) has become so absent-minded as to walk home from the hospital without either hat or coat on. Was it depth of thought or was it a girl? Probably it was the——

Ned Rus——feels secure in the start he has over all others, and even offers suggestions to the new farmers. Beard him.

Hattie Johnston "believes it true" that the end is near. Buck up Hattie!

R. D. Robertson has evidently become a firm believer in the use of *one* drug at a time and that in over doses.

SCIENCE.

1903.

Some of the members of the Year have already decided on their summer's work.

Our Pres. will handle the tiller lines of an ocean liner on his way across the water, and act the College man abroad in Gay Paris.

Messrs. Underwood and Underwood have been fortunate in securing the services of Messrs. K--th and J-n-s. The farmer's district will be among the wilds of Snoqualmie, while the latter will risk his life among the natives of Toronto.

It will take C--kl-n all summer to finish the Mechanical Drawing he was so eager to get.

The twins from Czar Reid's country will erect shanties on the Banks, and instruct the summer boarders in the intricacies of cod fishing and surf-riding.

On account of experience gained in the Physics Lecture Room Mc-y will tramp the streets as a scissors' grinder.

Sec. T---, with a valuable store of scientific knowledge gleaned from the same source, will soak the poor Rubes in the guise of a Lightning Rod Agent.

Pete has already engaged for five months with Wun Lung Sam. Shirt-waists done with neatness and despatch, especially, the latter. Call again.

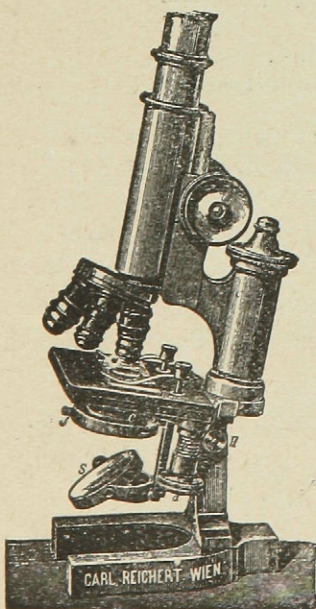
As a preliminary canter for mining the man from London, that is "Blunt," will wander up and down the concessions, along by the back fifties with post-holes as a sample line.

To the British Col. contingent has been allotted territory for sun-beams, wagon tracks, laughs and War Cries among the celestials of the West.

A cage has been newly gilded for the "Wild Man" at the Eden Musee.

G-l--s, anxious to acquire mechanical experience, has offered to oil the locks of the boat of the Montreal Life saving crew.

Yes, there are others in the Year, but it will take most of us the full five months to grind up "Sups" for the fall quiz.



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LONDON IN JANUARY, 1801.

What the Dawn of Last Century Saw.

When at the first stroke of twelve on the night of December 31, 1800, the night watchman in Doughty Street, and many another street in London, roused himself from his slumbers, and, seizing his horn lantern, sallied out to announce to such of the world as were not already asleep that it was "twelve o'clock and a fine night," he was, perhaps unconsciously, announcing the birth of a century more wonderful than any the world had yet seen.

He was a strange figure, the "policeman" of a hundred years ago, with his coat of many capes, his breeches and gaiters, his stout cudgel and his enormous lantern, nightly lit, to an accompaniment of strong language, with flint and steel and tinder.

His chief anxiety was to doze as comfortably as possible in his box, consistent with being awake to chronicle each hour and the state of the weather, and to keep an eye on any roystering young blades returning home from Drury Lane or Covent Garden who might wish to play a practical joke on him.

The London of those days was vastly different from the London of to-day. The streets were roughly paved with cobbles, and at night were lit at long intervals by feebly-flickering oil-lamps which a gust of wind might at any time blow out. It is little wonder that in the hours of darkness they were given over to footpads and house-breakers, and that no honest man could venture far alone.

In winter evenings pleasure-seekers

resorted to one or other of the eight theatres, ranging from Sadler's Wells in the north to the Royal Circus in the south; to the many coffee-houses, where they could discuss the latest news with their cronies; or to taverns and other low places of questionable resort.

In summer-time they would sally out to the tea-gardens, which then formed a fringe round London; or to the more fashionable resorts of Vauxhall and Ranelagh. For lovers of sport there was the morbid attraction of bull-baiting, when a score or so of dogs would torture a staked bull to a frenzy of rage or terror; and cock-fighting was the favorite sport even of princes.

Public executions, which were then of almost daily occurrence, drew thousands of spectators to watch the death-throes of men and women who paid with their life for stealing a pair of stockings or a few pounds of sugar. On one day in January, 1801, twelve persons were executed for offences the gravest of which was burglary, and which include the stealing of a sirloin and a tablecloth.

For other offences men were flogged at the cart-tail through miles of London streets to the jeering and laughter of following crowds, or were placed in pillories to be the target, for hours, of every imaginable kind of filth that idle and cruel passers-by chose to fling at them. With such recreations as these, to which were added prize-fights and all the riotous fun and revelry of frequent fairs at Smithfield and elsewhere, the Londoner of a century ago had his share of excitements, however questionable.

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In those days papers were few and dear. When sixpence was charged for a copy of a morning newspaper it is not surprising that the total circulation of the six leading London papers, including the "Times," "Morning Post," "Morning Chronicle" and "Morning Advertiser," rarely reached 15,000 copies a day.

Railways were, of course, unknown, for it was only in this year (1801) that the first Act was passed for the construction of a mineral line, six miles long, from Wandsworth to Croydon. The stage-coaches which rattled daily into London to the music of hundreds of horns rarely averaged more than five miles an hour, and it was considered a marvellous feat when the mails were carried from London to Bath in seventeen hours, a journey which is now accomplished daily in a trifle over two hours.

All the chief avenues to London were infested with highwaymen, and, in spite of armed guards and passengers, coaches were stopped and plundered every week. Rowland Hill was then a sickly child of five in his nursery at Kidderminster, and the penny post was not even a dream of the future. Stamps and envelopes were unknown, and the postman who delivered a letter collected the charge for it, ranging from a shilling upwards.

Provisions were at famine prices; wheat was £5 13s a quarter and sugar 75s a hundredweight, while beef and mutton were from 1s 3d to 1s 8d a pound. Wages had fallen almost to vanishing point, and roiting and discontent were everywhere. Religion was stagnant, and it was ostracism, if not actually a crime, to be a Dissenter. Great Britain was waging war single-handed against all the might of Napoleon; press-gangs were prowling everywhere ready to seize the unguarded "landsmen" and carry him off to the wars; waggons lumbered into London with the spoil of ships; and there were sufficient French prisoners of war in England to people a small town.—Tit-Bits.

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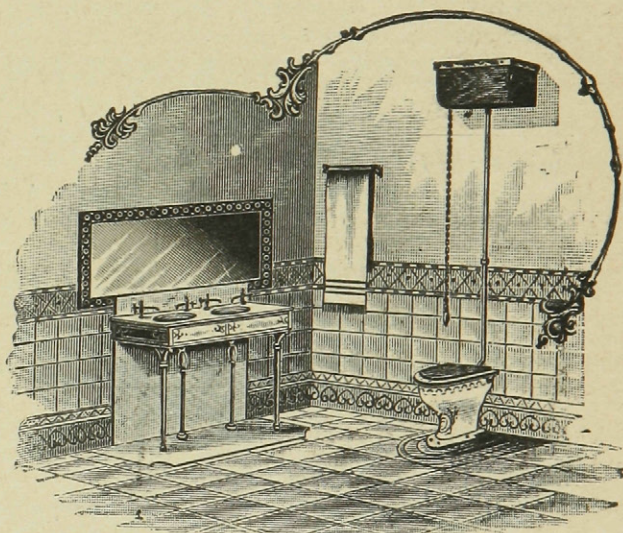
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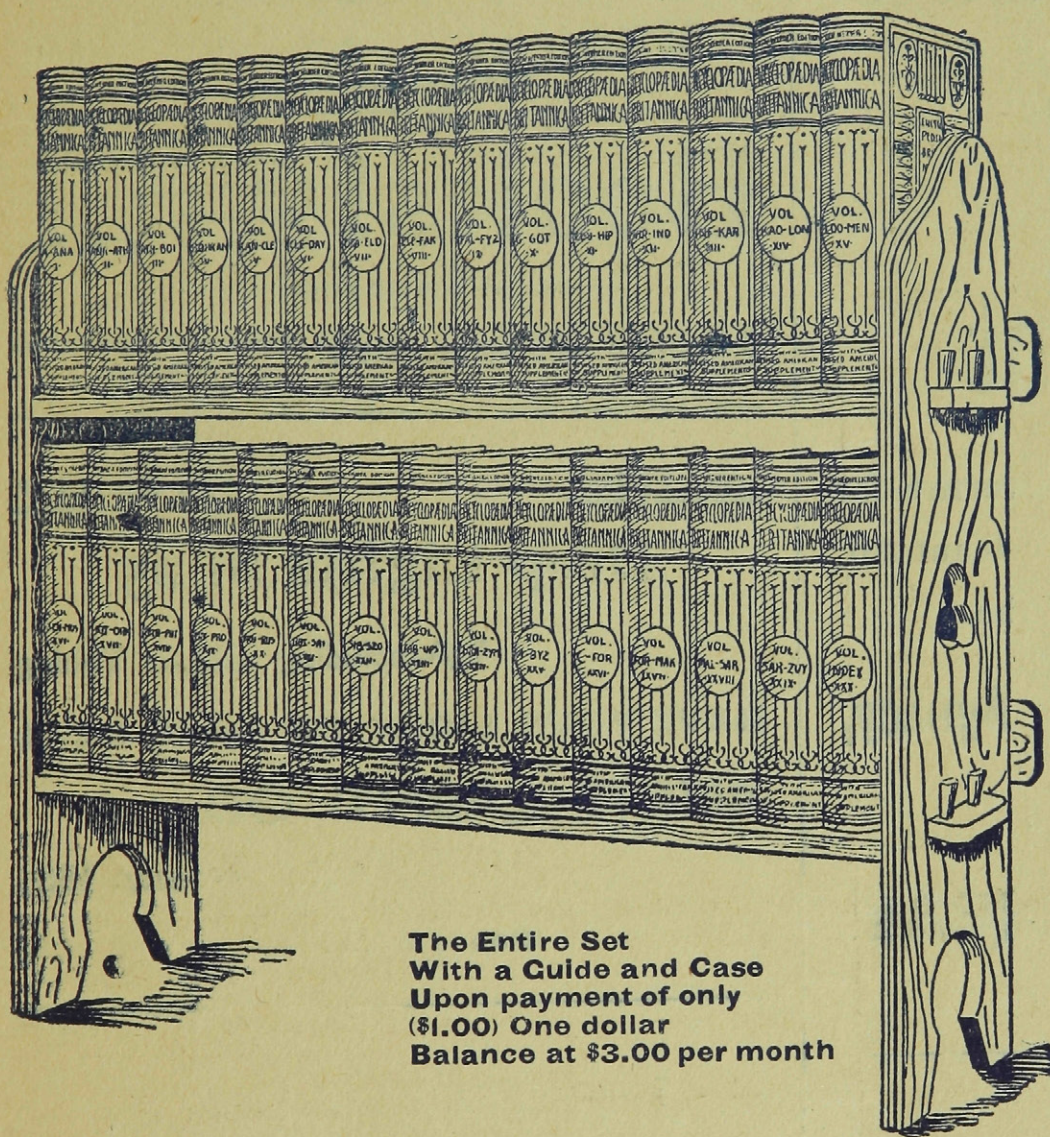
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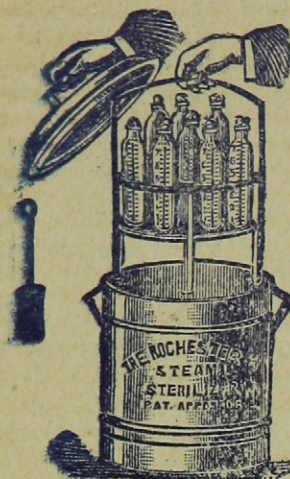
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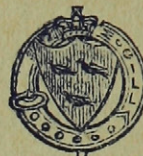
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